MAR+INVEST
Business Development and Finance Facility of the Mesoamerican Reef
The Mesoamerican Reef

- Includes the largest barrier reef in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Largest transboundary reef – 4 countries with over 1000 km of coastline.
- Biologically diverse, with endangered and charismatic species (manatees, whale sharks, Acropora sp., groupers).
- MAR reefs are “upstream” and ecologically connected to Florida, Cuba, and Bahamas.
- Cultural diversity (Q'eqchi’, Mopan, Yucatec Maya, Garifuna, Miskito).
- Reef-dependent population nearly 3M.
The Mesoamerican Reef: What’s at risk

- If the MAR continues to decline, by 2030 the per annum value of the system could fall by US$ 3.1 Billion (tourism, fisheries, coastal development). Conversely, a shift towards healthy reefs by 2030 could unlock an additional US$ 2.5 Billion annually across the three sectors¹.

- As per the 2021 economic valuation supported by the Interamerican Development Bank, the annual value of the MAR is US$ 4.5 Billion, integrated by reef-related tourism (US$ 3.9 B), reef-related fisheries (US$ 183 M), and shoreline protection (between US$ 320 and US$ 438 M).

¹UN Environment, ISU, ICRI and Trucost 2018. The Coral Reef Economy: The business case for investment in the protection, preservation and enhancement of coral reef health. 36pp
MAR+Invest Goal

To unlock private capital for investment in reef conservation in the MAR ecoregion
A multi-stakeholder approach that develops and finances enterprises that generate coral positive outcomes and market returns.

A new **blended finance model** for the MAR that brings together:

- Expertise in conservation, entrepreneurship, investment and evaluation of coral ecosystems, and **different types of capital** (commercial, philanthropic, development, public)

Designed to unlock private investment by overcoming the barriers that lead to the systemic lack of funding and development support for projects delivering MAR positive outcomes.
Outcomes

**Outcome 1**
Generation of coral positive market solutions for CMPA

**Outcome 2**
Livelihoods of coral reef-dependent communities are reef positive and have increased resilience to climate change

**Outcome 3**
The MAR Emergency Fund\(^3\) effectively responds to major shocks

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\(^3\)MAR Emergency Fund: Finance mechanism that provides emergency finance.
Operational Structure

MAR+INVEST

FINANCING SOLUTIONS FACILITY

IMPACT MONITORING & EVALUATION

MARTAF (TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FACILITY) CONVENING AGENT

BUILD & CONNECT: ENABLING CONDITIONS & INNOVATION

Portfolio
Portfolio of potential solutions
## Portfolio of potential solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Coral Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>King Crab restorative mariculture</strong></td>
<td>Lack of restorative solutions in the MAR that can address fleshy macroalgae.</td>
<td>HRI advancing research and development for King Crab mariculture.</td>
<td>Fleshy macroalgae reduction.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Seaweed farming</strong></td>
<td>Overfishing, destructive fishing, climate change, are among the issues reducing fish populations and income for coastal communities.</td>
<td>Seaweed farming is a restorative solution that can represent an opportunity to decrease the pressure on reef resources</td>
<td>Regeneration of ecosystem functions, increase in biodiversity, reduction of thermal stress, and improved climate resilience.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAR Carbon</strong></td>
<td>Mangrove loss in the MAR is 34%. This affects the life cycles of commercial and coral species that need the critical interconnection between mangroves and coral reefs</td>
<td>MAR Carbon</td>
<td>Maintain and restore critical connectivity between coral and mangrove.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shrimp farming</strong></td>
<td>Runoff from aquaculture is impacting the interconnected ecosystems of mangrove, seagrass and corals.</td>
<td>Provide financing to adopt zero effluent technology</td>
<td>Zero aquaculture runoff in every farm that adopts the new technology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wastewater treatment plants</strong></td>
<td>Non-existent and/or incomplete sewage treatment.</td>
<td>Explore the possibilities for the generation of a portfolio of waste water treatment plants.</td>
<td>Reduction of nutrient pollution and pathogens.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed operation

Core Structure
Impact monitoring and evaluation HRI
Build & Connect FMCN
Financing Facility New Ventures
MARTAF MAR Fund

Search for initiatives
Calls for proposals

Support to be provided
Technical Assistance
Pipeline and portfolio development

- Grants
- Concessional - Loans
- Blending - Impact incentives
We are opening the call for application process seeking to find the best solution for the MAR
THANK YOU!